CASE STUDY
Food and Beverage

Project Specs

Location: Hoodsport, Washington
Application: Fish Hatchery
Product: Safe-T-Span® T5020 and I6010 ISOFR Pultruded Grating

Overview

Hatcheries are designed and increasingly operated according to protocols that protect wild fish as well as complement ecosystem and recovery goals. These hatcheries have become an important part of the state’s economy, producing millions of fish for harvest by recreational and commercial fishers. Fish hatcheries in Washington are also considered an important tool in restoring and conserving wild, naturally-spawning salmon and steelhead populations.

Problem

In December 2018, the hatcheries in the city of Hoodsport were going through renovations in order to meet wild fish conservation objectives and developing sustainable fisheries.

In this particular case, the walkways were being replaced. Due to the environment, traditional materials, such as wood and steel, are not ideal because the surfaces of these walkways are usually wet. The wet surfaces create a hazard for the employees of this facility. In addition, galvanized steel is extremely toxic for the fish due to its high levels of zinc.

Solution

These conditions required the material to be:

- Corrosion resistant: Corrosive solutions used at the hatchery could seriously damage the walkways.
- Slip resistant: Because the surface is wet most of the time, traditional materials could increase slip and fall hazards.

Safe-T-Span pultruded grating has the benefits mentioned above. FRP pultruded grating will decrease installation costs, installation time, maintenance costs, and maintenance time for the contractors and final users. Pultruded grating has outstanding durability and high strength-to-weight ratio. It will save the client from removing, disposing, and replacing the walkways at the facility in the future.

The client and the contractor were pleased with the product since it has thrived against the weather and the conditions of the hatchery. After their experience with the Fibergrate staff, they invited us to participate in future construction project biddings.